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March 3, 2020

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd  
Chief Clerk/Executive Director  
Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100  
Columbia, SC 29210

Re: South Carolina Energy Freedom Act (H.3659) Proceeding Initiated Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-40-20(C): Generic Docket to (1) Investigate and Determine the Costs and Benefits of the Current Net Energy Metering Program and (2) Establish a Methodology for Calculating the Value of the Energy Produced by Customer-Generators  
**Docket Number: 2019-182-E**

Dear Ms. Boyd:

As you may recall, on December 31, 2019, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (“DEC”) and Duke Energy Progress, LLC (“DEP”) (DEC and DEP are jointly referred to herein as the “Companies”) filed a letter with this Commission providing an update on the procedural issues in the above-referenced proceeding and the discussions surrounding same.

The Companies have reached an agreement with the Office of Regulatory Staff, Vote Solar, Sunrun, Southern Environmental Law Center, and Dominion Energy SC, to hold a series of stakeholder technical workshops. The first workshop is scheduled for March 12, 2020 and will cover topics including but not limited to long-run marginal costs and T&D planning. The second workshop is tentatively scheduled for April 23, 2020 and will cover topics such as the value of distributed energy resources and successor tariff and rate design. The stakeholders are engaging additional interested parties to participate in the technical workshops and will continue to update the Commission on the stakeholder activities.

After the technical workshops, the Companies and stakeholders, and other interested parties will begin substantive discussion in pursuit of agreement on the path forward, likely in May 2020. The Companies hope to reach an agreement with the stakeholders and other interested parties on a procedural schedule for the litigated phase of this proceeding, a cost-benefit framework for all utilities, the costs of service implications and results, and the rate design and solar choice metering tariff design to offer for the Commission’s consideration.

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The Companies respectfully note that no immediate action is required by the Commission at this time, and that activities aimed toward an intended resolution of the procedural issues are and will be taking place.

Sincerely,



Heather Shirley Smith

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